Watchman & Dournal.

TRAMS-\$2.00 per year, strictly in advance; or \$2.50 if

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1883

THE Troy and Boston railway has paid its tax, amounting to \$495. The fatali ties which seem to have attended the effort of the commissioner to communicate with the officials of this road, from the dispatching of the return blanks in early summer to his final letter in the fall to the president of the company, which that official says he has never seen, is a veritable comedy of errors. The first notice the officials had that the state had a claim which it was trying to enforce was a mention of the fact in a Bennington paper that Commissioner Dillingham had sued the company. In half a dozen communications on the subject the long-suffering commissioner exhausted his store of patience and politeness, and still the company had from a country newspaper its first inkling that the state was getting anxious about a little matter of a few hundred dollars in taxes. There is apparently a screw loose either in the postal communication between Waterbury and Troy, or in the internal management of the office of the railway company.

"To these republican patrons of ours we have a duty to perform, and one of the chief duties is to keep them informed about the aspirants for office in their own party. The chiefs of the ring which 'runs' the republican party in this state have constituted themselves into a close corporation, so far as this, that no matter what private dissensions they may have among themselves, no organ of the party shall ever be allowed to allude to them." This from an article from the Argus and Patriot of December 12, reprinted in this issue of THE WATCHMAN. Now let this democratic guardian of Vermont republicans perform its full duty, not only to them but to the people at large, and tell them plainly who are "the chiefs of the ring which 'runs' the republican party in this state," and who are the rank and file. This call is made in no captious spirit. The things the Argus and Patriot alleges democrats and republicans alike bave a right to know, and are especially anxious to know. Let our dauntless contemporary speak out, give the names of the "chiefs," their followers, their purposes, and all it knows about them. The people demand it. Forewarned, forearmed, in the interest of "government of the people, by the people, for the people," we will all take hold together to dissolve this "close cor-

Preparing for 1884. At the meeting of the national republican committee in Washington, a week ago, Chicago was selected as the place, and June 31 the day, for holding the next convention for the nomination of candidates for the presidency and vice-presidency. Senator Sabin of Minnesota, Mr. Windom's successor, was chosen chairman. Senator Frye of Maine presented a plan for a new basis of representation which would secure to the states which must be depended on to elect a republican president a preponderance of votes in the nominating convention. Under the present system each state has four delegatesat-large and two for each congressional district. Each territory also has two delegates. Mr. Frye's proposed plan was as follows: Each state shall be entitled to four delegates, as now; each district to one instead of two, as now; to one additional delegate for each ten thousand votes cast within its limits in 1880 for the republican candidates for presidential electors, and to one additional delegate for a majority fraction of ten thousand votes. Each territory was also allowed two delegates. The vote for presidential electors is taken as best indicating the real strength of the party in any district, being less liable to be affected by local causes. The effect of this change would have been to have increased the representation of the northern states by one hundred and nine delegates and to have decreased the southern delegations in the aggregate sixty-one members. Illinois would have had an increase of twelve, Indiana eleven, New York sixteen, Ohio seventeen, and Pennsylvania sixteen delegates. Vermont would have had an increase of four delegates, while Rhode Island would have lost two, the only one of the northern states thus affected. The delegations of five of the southern states would not have been changed, while the others would have been reduced in numbers varying from three in Virginia and Tennessee to eleven in Texas. Under the existing basis the total number of delegates in the convention will be eight hundred and twenty. Under the proposed basis the total would have been eight hundred and seventy. This plan was not adopted but was conveniently referred, after a warm debate, to the convention for discussion and settlement. It was perhaps unfortunate for Mr. Frye, if he wished to have his plan succeed, that he hailed from a state which has twice presented a "favorite son" for conventional honors and who is popularly oredited with aspirations for a "third term." It may have been merely a coincidence, but it is noticed that the new plan would have given to the states in which Mr. Blaine has had his largest and most enthusiastic following the bulk of the increased representation. So that, justly or unjustly, the plan was handicapped with a suspicion that it was a scheme to advance the ambition of Mr. Blaine. It is true that the southern states in the last election were not able to contribute any electoral votes to the republican cause, and that they probably man of decided ability and is very popu-will not be able to in the next. The re- lar with men of all parties as a man of publican cause, and that they probably

publicans have succeeded under the existing plan, and it does not appear that the influence of the southern delegates has been exerted to accomplish the nomination of an objectionable or an undesirable candidate. In the long run the existing plan may prove to be the safest and best. It has certainly worked well in every instance thus far, and when there are any easonable apprehensions that it will not continue to work well, it will be time to think seriously of making a change. Under certain conditions of public sentimentlike the transition, for instance, which was taking place between 1856 and 1860-Mr. Frye's plan might secure the choice of a very unrepresentative, or inadequately submitted to the house, Boutelle immedirepresentative, body. At all events, there eems to be no really good reason at this time for tinkering the bridge over which the party has safely passed for nearly a quarter of a century.

A Six Million Dollar Fraud.

Eight years ago the New York Tribun. xposed the frauds of the canal ring in New York through which the people had been robbed of enormous sums of money. A few years before the Times unearthed the notorious frauds of the Tweed ring. During the past week the Tribune has published new and startling disclosures of corruption and extravagance in the city government, which have taken from the city treasury since 1876 the appalling sum of nearly six million dollars. The method employed by this new gang of thieves is thus described by the Tribune: The estimates prepared by the department, on which contracts are made, are wholly misleading. Contractors in some way procure information which shows just how far these estimates are erroneous, and are thus enabled to secure contracts which result in enormous losses to the city through the vacation and reduction f assessments. The method is absolutely simple. A street opening or a sewer, for example, will require excavation—so much in rock, so much in earth. The engineer states approximately the amount of eachand bids are invited. The outside contractor makes a straightforward bid, al lowing him a fair profit on each. The inside contractor makes a bid considerably higher on one, and very much lower on he other-resulting in a lower average. He thus gets the contract. Then it mys teriously turns out that, of the work on which he has made a very low bid, there s far less than the engineer estimated; of that on which he made an unreasonably high bid, far more. The engineer's deceptive estimate and the contractor's secret knowledge of the real facts work together; and the unbalanced bid becomes as thorough a piece of burglary as if the city treasury had been pried open with a jimmy." Under some of the contracts it shows that fifty dollars a cubic yard has been paid for excavating rock for which a fair compensation was less than two dollars. A long list of similar frauds is given which were rendered possible only by the collusion or gross incompetency of the city officials. These frauds are not found in a single case, but appear in contracts week after week and year after year, till they reach in the aggregate the enormous mentioned above. It is not reassur ing to think that under the existing electoral system, the election of a president for thirty-eight states and eight territories, aggregating nearly sixty millions of people, will turn upon the vote of a city in which such frauds are possible and which for decades has been a synonym for all that is corrupt in politics and iniquitous in government.

Notes and Comments.

PHILADELPHIA PRESS: "A week ago the democrats won their victory in the democratic party; but now that they have got it they are in doubt, not so much what to do with their victory, as what their victory will do with them. The faction of action having won the right to act, the entire party rises up to beg it to do nothing. The party caucus having had the courage of its convictions, the speaker it elected is implored to have the cowardice of his prudence. East, West, North and South, panic usurps the place of principle, and the party which dared everything to elect a free-trader speaker is urged to do nothing, so as to retain the possibility of electing anybody president."

AT an election for delegates to the democratic state convention, held in New Orleans on Friday, a terrible tragedy was enacted. In the midst of a little contest over a challenged vote some one fired a shot. This seemed to be a signal, as firing immediately became general. Great excitement prevailed, and the police were powerless against the combatants. Captain Michael J. Fortier, a prominent democrat, was mortally wounded and expired in a few minutes. Gus Renaud, superintendent of streets in the seventh ward, was picked up unconscious and died in a little while. E iward Masson, deputy constable, received three balls in his leg, severing an artery. He survived but a little while. Eleven others were wounded more or less seriously. Forty or fifty shots were fired. There was a large crowd

about the polls at the time. B. B. SMALLEY is talked of as the next democratic candidate for governor of this state. Of Mr. Smalley the Rutland Her ald says: "The republican is not near as old as the democratic party and nothing near so rotten. The democratic party in Boston, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, and Baltimore has always been and is today the party of municipal robbery and fraud. The Vermont democracy have no chance to steal anything in Vermont, and there is nothing worth stealing if they had a chance. Mr. Smalley is a gentle-

integrity and public spirit. During the war Mr. Smalley, like his eminent father, the late Judge Smalley, was a staunch war democrat, and Vermont republicans have no serious differences with the patriots of any party. It is the 'copperhead' tery of 1861-5 that we never forgive."

"CONGRESSMAN BOUTELLE of Maine,"

writes the Washington correspondent of the Boston Journal, "caused two things to be done in the house which shows, at least, that his republicanism has no uncertain sound. The other day when the resolution of Hewitt, the leader of the democracy, calling upon the president to interfere in the case of O'Donnell was ately drew a very apt paraphrase of it, adapted to the Danville massacre. Boutelle thought that if the United States house of representatives on the first day of its meeting, before it was fully organized, could request the president of the United States to inquire whether an Irish assassin was an American citizen, and whether, having been condemned to death for murder, he had been tried in accordance with the municipal laws of Great Britain, it would not be very extraordinary justice if the same American house of representatives should ask the question whether the victims of the Danville massacre were citizens of the United States, and whether any municipal law of Virginia had been violated by their taking off. Accordingly, Boutelle drafted the following resolution, which he asked Mr. Horr of Michigan, an older member, to present : 'Resolved, That the house bring to the notice of the president the case of the recent murder of several persons, claimed to have been citizens of the United States, at Danville, in the state of Virginia, in the hope that the president may ascertain whether said persons so murdered and injured were citizens of the United States, and if so, whether the killing and injuring of said citizens, if they were such, were in contravention of the provisions of the municipal law of the state of Virginia or of any law of the United States.' The reading of this resolution raised a tempest on the democratic side and twenty members sprang to their feet at once to object. Morrison's objection was beard and entertained, although Cabel of Virginia, who represents th Danville district, was vociferously de-manding a hearing. Cabel tried to say that he would not object to the resolution. but the chair put him down as being out of order, and the resolution of course fell."

Mr. Morrill on the Coinage. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF COINAGE. A temporary suspension of the coinage of silver cannot reduce the amount in circulation in the least, as it will manifestly be impossible for several years to wholly exhaust the extensive stock now in the overloaded vaults of the treasury; and all those whose opinions are most entitled to our respect advise that such a suspension will be the only effective policy to checkmate the anti-silver fanalicism supposed to prevail among some foreign nations. It checkmate the anti-siver fanaticism supposed to prevail among some foreign nations. It would be stupid to suppose that these nations will ever abanden their gold policy while we are exerting our utmost power to sustain it, not here but there, by rolling out of their path the chief obstacle which blocks their way, but which, like the rock of Sisyphus, always rollis back to crush ourselves. A temporary suspension is also indispensable to enable us to reform and to vastly improve our annual display. form and to vastly improve our annual display of coinage, which in 1882 was equal in amount to one-half of the combined annual coinage of all other leading commercial nations. The purpose of the proposition to cease issuing one and two-dollar United States notes is to bring into circulation a larger amount of silver do-lars. The money-order system and postal notes of the post-office departm-nt—likely, as i am informed, soon to be greatly imprefully demonstrate that small bills are no indispensable for remittances, and may indi-pensable for remittances, and may prop-erly be pushed aside to make room for silver EXCESS OF SILVER.

There are in circulation at the present time \$93,953 780 of our sliver coinage. There are also \$141 337 533 more in the treasury which Helf as much of fractional silver and about three times as many siver dollars are now in the treasury as are held by the people. Where is it to go? Cut bono? The treasury is thoroughly gorged, and the stomachs of the people are suffering from hopeless indigestion, it can hardly be d-ubted that the two or more millions of sliver buillon which has been bough every month, and by the overtasked mints conevery month, and by the overtasked mints converted into more millions of dollars, amounting in five veers and seven months to the prodigious sum of \$154,370,899, would have been more largely accepted and held as ready money by the people if the government had left silver to stand on its own merits, and had not enlisted in what seemed almost a crusade to force an excessive and unnatural amount into circulation. Sober legis ators appeared to rely upon coercion to popularize the diffusion of silver, and also upon the conderous creation of an absolute supply to create an equally absolute description. solute supply to create an equally absolute de-mand; but the public, wandering in unbelief, declined to be coerced, and subsequent experience, to a considerable extent, may have confirmed the general and more pronounced lack of faith. It is true that the government lack of faith. It is true that the government has been and is regularly in the market for its moon-struck supply of builton, yet any advan-tage of an increased or fictitious creation of value upon the general product of silver mines has been and is impossible, because all the rest of mankind, or the major part of consumers, are entirely free to buy or not to buy, and es-pecially free to take notice of the fact that our government is a purchaser on sheer compul-sion, bound by positive law to buy and to hoard a swelling surplus that must ere long break through all barriers and inundate all break through all barriers and incidate all markets. Becouded by such surroundings, it is not wonderful that the price of silver has been rather adversely affected. The London quotation for silver, February 28, 1878 was 55 pence per opnee, and has rarely if ever been so much since, being to-day 50 pence per ounce, British standard. Bluding itself as a per-British standard. Binding users as a per-petual purchaser has placed the government too nearly in the attitude of the reckiess spec-ulators of the stock exchange, or of buying sil-ver to make a "corner" in order to squeeze outsider. But the action of the some cutsider. But the action of the govern-ment is as bootless as was the stamp of the ty-rant's foot to raise armies. We have nothing to show for it except our own perspiration. The patronage of government, bestowed upon silver mines, or nickei mines, or copper mines, to secure their permanent prosperity, is unreliable and no more should be sought after by them than can be justified by the actual require-ments of the government. It should also be forever borne in mind that the annual production of our gold mines, heretofore much the largest, is now a little less than our silver m nes, and no more favoritism should be shown to one than to the other. When our standard money is of universal value, circulating without loss elsewhere as well as at home, the increase or decrease of its volume does not materially effect the price of commodities. The intercommunication of the markets of the world preserves values at nearly a universal level, and redresses fluctuations at the bare cost of the transportation of coin, it would obviously be to our great hurt if our appels about 1 to one than to the other. When our standard be to our great burt if our specie should lack barmony with the standard of other commer cial nations with whom our chief intercourse must be maintained. Different standards of money are worse and more inconvenient than different languages Whatever disadvantages different languages Whatever disadvantage m y now or hereafter arise from adverse ex

many without appreciable effect upon prices or values. Great Britain is supposed to have large control of the gold standard of Europe; but, if so, it is not derived from her abundant but, if so, it is not derived from her abundant colorage, no gold having been coined there in 1882, and only £ 209 880 if sliver. Others may soon find that their interests can only be permanently promoted, not by a scramble with all the world for gold, but by uniting with us in giving to both sliver and gold at least a fair trial to hold universal and harmonious relations. Meantime, whatever others may do, the vital interests of our own people cannot be effectually guarded by a left-handed imposition of the sliver standard.

CANADIAN SILVER.

When our fractional silver strays into Canada it is halled as an intruder, and cannot pass at less than twenty per cent discount, or our half-dollar shrinks to forty cents, and the quarter to twenty cents; but Canadian silver coins are plentiful on our northern borders, and, though really of less value than our fractional ver coins, they are generally accepted at elr full nominal value. Canadian silver could be sternly refused in all American marshould be sternly refused in all American markets, or subjected to a discount of 23.2 per cent, its builion value. This would be reciprocity, and exclude a nulsance.

Forty-Eighth Congress.

Tuesday, December 11—In the senate Mr. Anthony of Rhode L-land appeared, and was sworn in, bills and resolutions were introduced, and in executive session the nomination of Postmaster-general Gresham was confirmed ... The time of the house was mainly occupied in the introduction of bills. One hundred and ninety-seven were presented, making 1021 during the past two days. An adjournment was taken until Friday.

WEDNESDAY, December 12—In the senate Mr. Beck offered a resolution calling on the secretary of the treasury for information regarding the sinking fund. Mr. Beck addressed he senate, cont-nding that there is no need of the senate, cont-nding that there is no need of a yearly appropriation of \$50,00,000 for the sinking fund and arguing in favor of reduced taxation. Mr. Sherman believed in keeping the sinking fund intact. He thought at the present rate the sinking fund would pay off the national debt in fourteen years. He believed the present policy should be preserved until the public debt is paid off to the very uttermost farthing. Mr. Beck's resolution, amended on motion of Mr. Bayard to include a report showing under what provision of law the reduction ing under what provision of law the reduction of the public debt has been effected, was adopted Mr. Wilson of lowa called up his joint resolution proposing an amendment to the con-stitution. The resolution proposes the follow-ing article of amendment, to be numbered article 16: "Congress shall have power, by appro-priate legislation, to protect citizens of the United States in the exercise and enjoyment of the rights, privileges and immunities, and to assure to them the equal protection of the laws." Mr. Wilson addressed the senate at length on this resolution, which was referred to the committee of the judiciary. The senate then went into executive session. The house

Thursday, December 13—In the senate, after the introduction of several bills, the report of the committee on the proposed revision of the rules was taken up and discussed. Messrs, Bayard, Sherman, Edmunds, Garland and others participated in the debate. Without reaching a vote on the main proposition, an adjournment was taken until Monday.

FRIDAY, December 14.—In the house, a resoution making December 23 (the one hundredth anniversary of the day on which General Washington resigned his commission) a legal holiday, was referred to a select committee of five. A resolution was offered providing for Are an investigation of the recent riot at Danville, Va., but objection being made, it went over Mr. Ranney of Massachusetts introduced a bill to establish the marine signal board of the United States, with a view of having adopted a code and system of marine lights and fog signals. The sante was not in session signals. The senate was not in session

(From the Argus and Patriot of December 12, 1883.) Our Duty to Republicans.

Since the publication of the articles in the Argus and Patriot upon Frederick Billings, we have received letters from some of our oldwe have received letters from some of our old-est and most respected democratic subscribers, suggesting that it would have been much shrewder, in a political sense, for us to say nothing at present about Mr. Billings' course in dodging his taxes, but to "lie low," as the saying is, and, after Mr. Billings' nomination, to make our charges, and let the voters say whom they would prefer for governor—a "tax dog ing" republican or an honest democrat. There is a good deal of force in this criticism, and it is due to our old friends, as well as to the pub-lic generally, that we do not pass them by in lic generally, that we do not pass them by in silence. If Vermont were a doubtful state, and the Argus and Patriot circulated solely smong democrats, and our position was merely that of a partisan political organ, it might be that we should adopt the course suggested, and say nothing about Mr. Billings until after his nomination. But Vermont is politically a singular state, and the Argus and Patriot enivs a patronage and support which, we be-lieve, is unique in the history of journalism in

this country.

As to Vermont, we are sorry to say that we are afraid that no arguments which we could make, and no adroitness which we could employ, would prevent the success of the republi-can ticket in this state in 1884, even with a candidate as objectionable as Mr. Billings would be. Hence, even if we should adopt the course suggested by our friends it would do no good. If nominated, Mr. Billings would be elected by somewhat less than the usual majority; and nominated he probably would have been, had it not been for the exposure which we made of his failure to pay his fair proportion of taxes.

As to the Argus and Patriot, we believe that we need take no time in explaining that we

we need take no time in explaining that we are democratic to the back-bone. For many are democratic to the back-bone. For many years, "in season and out of season." We have upheld democratic principles in this state, in the face of a powerful maj-rity; and to-day we believe as sincerely as ever that the future greatness and prosperity of this country depend upon the triumph of the principles which actuate us, the principles of those immortal statemen—Jefferson, Jackson and Tilden. But the constituency to which we preach is not all democratic. Of the nearly 7,000 sub-cribers of this paper, a large percentage are republicans. this paper, a large percentage are republicans In the list are senators of the United States congressmen and ex-congressmen, judges and ex-judges of the supreme court, members of the legislature and ex-members, and many of the regislature and ex-memors, and many of the most substantial and intelligent of the gen-tlemen who habitually vote the republican ticket in Vermont. We have no doubt that the Argus and Patriot is read every week by thou-sands of the pick of the republican voters in this state. Our republican subscribers patronizs us becauss—to judge by what they have told us over and over again—they know that from us slope can they get the truth about matters and affairs in Vermont. Every republican paper in the state is the particular or-gan of some little clique, which owns it and manages it for their own private ends. Against no member of its clique dare an organ open its mouth, no matter what may happen. We alone dare discuss questions without fear or favor, and hence the great size of our circumore than double that of any other paper in the state. To these republican pet-rons of ours we have a duty to perform, and one of the chief duties is to keep them inone of the chief duties is to keep them in-formed about the asyirants for office in their own party. The chiefs of the rirg which "rons" the republican party in this state have constituted themselves into a close corporation so far as this, that no matter what private dis sensions they may have among themselves, no organ of the party shall ever be allowed to al lude to them. No matter how much the "cauldron may seethe," no hint is given by the org ms that everything is not as "calm as a summer's sea." For these reasons a large number of Republican voters have learned to turn to the Argus and Patriot as their source of information in regard to matters within of information in regard to matters within their own party. Their desires shall be gratitheir own party. Their desires shall be grat-fied in the future as fully as they have been i

If it had not been for us, there is little doubt but that the nomination of Mr. Billings for the governor-hip would have been accomplished by a regular "burrah boys," stimulated by the Rutland Herald and a Burlington exchange. the Rutiand Heraid and a Burlington exchange.

Now, we have no doubt whatever that he is
as "dead as a door nail," thanks to our unanswerable statement of his conduct. We
have received a large number of letters from
republicans during the past week, thanking us
for our editorials on the subject, and remarking that their "home papers" never would

have dared to say a word up: the Argus and Patriot, if we ve democrate elected to office in Vernont-and we are afraid we cannot in any great numbers for the present—is determined to have the very best republicans elected, those who are the least under control of the rings, and who will conduct themselves as im

The Adjourned Village Meeting.

Capital hall was filled with an interested and

Capital hall was filled with an interested and expectant company of voters Monday evening to hear the report of the committee on water supply and to transact the other business left over from the regular meeting. Printed copies of the report were furnished to all present, and the chairman of the committee, C. H. Heath, E.q., supplemented this with some explanations. Inquiries were made and answered in a business-like and satisfactory manner. It was evident from the temper of the meeting that no long winded speeches were wanted, and after a few brief remarks the report was, on motion of M. D. Gilman, accepted and ordered to be recorded. T. R. Gordon then moved to adopt article ninth of the warrant, authorizing the halliffs to issue bonds for a sum not exceeding \$50,000 and to construct the water works. Very little opposition was made, and after belliffs to issue bonds for a sum not exceeding \$50,000 and to construct the water works. Very little opposition was made, and after some little discussion a ballot was taken and the motion carried by a vote of 250 to 25, almost ten to one. The announcement of the vote was greeted with rigorous applause. A committee of ten, consisting of C. H. Heath, J. el Foster, Fred E. Smith, A. O. Cummins, A. J. Sibley, George W. Ripley, C. W. Porter, S. M. Walton, J. C. Houghton, and J. W. Brock was appointed to nominate a board of balliffs. While they were attending to their duties C. T. Sabin, in response to a request from the moderator, said a few words, expressing confidence in the reliability of the estimates presented to the meeting. D. P. Clark was elected collector and J. C. Houghton treasurer. The other articles in the warrant pertaining to water supply were then dismissed, and articles relating to throwing rubbish into the rivers and the use of public sewers were adopted. D. L. Fuller raised a point on the wording of one of these articles, which was answered by the moderator to the great satisfaction of the meeting. The organization of the engine and hook and ladder companies was approved, and a tax of 12½ cents on the dollar of the grand list was voted to meet the expenses of the coming year. This was ordered to be collected by the first of March, and the treasurer was authorized to make the usual temporary loan. thorized to make the usual temporary loan. The committee on nominating a board of bailiffs then reported, expressing regrets that Fred E Smith and J. W. Brock could not be Fred E. Smith and J. W. Brock could not be induced to serve on that board, and presented the following names: Morton Marvin, Joel Foster, A. J. Sibley, A. O. Cummins, S. M. Walton; and these gentlemen were duly elected. After considerable discussion as to the manner of issuing the bonds, the following resolution was adopted:

resolution was adopted:

Resolved. That the village of Montpeller issue bonds to an amount not exceeding \$90.0. for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the vote of sold village for obtaining water from Berlin pond or its out'et, under the provisions of an aut of the legislative, approved November 2s. A. D. 1812. Said bonds shill be registered or coupon, and of such denominations as the balliffs and tree-surer's alliges to be for the best interest of the village, and shall be made payable at the treasurer's office in Montpeller twenty years from date of issue, or st any time after five vears from said date of issue, or st any time after five vears from said date of issue, at the option of said village of Montpeller, bearing interest payable semi-simully st a rate not exceeding four and one-half per co-t per annum, and shall be signed by said held fis and creamer are directed to adventise for sealed proposals for the purchess of said bonds for thirty days before the date fixed for opening said proposals, and no proposals shall be accepted for less than par value.

The meeting then adjourned, after having been in session about four hours. Much satisfaction is expressed at the result, and there is a settled conviction that a wise move has been

Montpeller.

There will be a praise service at the Baptist hurch next Sunday evening.

THE dry and fancy goods stores have taken in the usual holiday supply of clerks. The Spalding bell ringers are booked for Capital hall Friday evening, December 28.

ONE of the ten new "moguls" purchased by the Central Vermont railroad has been named the "E P. Walton." CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY-SCHOOL IS to meet

at the rector's house on Saturday alternoon, at four o'clock, for Christmas carol practice. THE lecture by Chaplain McCabe, in Trinity church last Wednesday evening, was well attended and was very entertaining and in-

This office had the honor of receiving the

first message over the telephone wire from Northfield. It came at fifteen minutes past

THE East Montpelier annual occurs at the Pavilion Tuesday evening, January 1-t. Mu-sic will be furnished by Blaisdell's orchestra (eight pieces) of Concord, N. H. J. D. CLARK is getting out some very nice work in the line of record books for towns. Mr. Clark has a large patronage in this line, and his customers are always satisfied with his

DURING the week of January 6th Professor Starr, the exposer of spiritualism, will be at Capital hall. The professor, it is said, has been very successful in Burlington and else-

GEORGE WHEELER has rented the Union house of Messrs. Irish & Sparrow, and has moved into the same during the past week. He intends to run a boarding-house and tran

HON. GEORGE N. DALE is to deliver a lectur in a course to be given at Island Pond. His subject will be "Catherine of Arragon and Castile, and Her Persecutors," an item of English history.

LITTLE CORINNE and her merrie-makers are under contract to sing in Capital hall Wednes-day evening, the 26th. This music d and dramatic prodizy is too well known here to need any commendation. She will have a packed house as a matter of course.

THE funeral services of Mrs. Caroline M. Pikin, which occurred last Thursday afternoon, were largely attended. The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Wright. The employes of the Lane manufacturing company attended the funeral in a body. ployes of the Lane manuscription attended the funeral in a body.

HYMEN has scored another victory. Mr. J. G. Morrison and Miss Neille J. Rawson were married at Campridgeport on Tuesday of last week. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison have taken rooms at the Pavilion for the winter. THE WATCHMAN wishes them much happiness.

THE sociable at the Pavilion, last Wednesday evening, was well attended. There were furnished excellent music, and the evening was almost entirely taken up with dancing Last Saturday was the roughest day of the winter, thus far. The therme meter ranged in winter, thus far. The therms meter ranged in the vicinity of zero through the day, and to

this inclemency was added a strong north-easterly wind. This condition of things, together with the absence of sleighing, necessarily ren-dered trade dull for this time of year. Six inches of snow would brighten things up won-RUTH JEWETT returned from Northamptor

yesterday, accompanied by Mary Reed, who will spend the holiday vacation in Montpeller. Charles M. Thompson comes home to-mor-row, Florence Balley on Friday and Fannie Fifisid, C. C. King and R. G. Brown on Saturday. Mr. Brown brings with him Mr. Hunting, a member of the class of '83 who will pass the THERE is a movement on foot to start a skat

ing rink, if sufficient funds can be reised. understand papers are in circulation for sul scriptions to defray the expense. It will t about one dollar from each skater in town. is proposed to scrape or plane a piece of ice on the Wincoski river about six hundred feet in length and the full width of the river, and keep it in good condition until the first of March. THE prices for some of the more common

supplies this week are as follows: Cabbages 3 cents a pound; onlons, \$1 a bushel; cranberries, 15 cents a quart; evaporated apples, 20 cents a pound; pickles, 20 cents a gallor; buck-wheat flour, 5 cents a pound; beans, 12½ cents a quart; oysters, Providence river, 45 cents a quart; Norfolk, 35 cents a quart; Fiorida orangrs, 35 to 50 cents a dozen; honey, 25 to 30

There will be Christmas concerts at the Congregational, Unitarian and Methodiat churches on Sunday evening. At Bethany, a special form of service is to be used, and the concert will be a sort of children's praise service, the exercises consisting largely of singing and responsive readings by the children. At the other churches the exercises will be of simple control of the praise of the service in section of the children. ilar claracter, the principal feature in each case being the music.

Christmas day services at Christ church will be held at half-past ten o'c'ock a m. Offerings will be taken for missions in this state. Sunday school festival at four P. M., with carols. There will be a Christmas tree at Trinity church Monday evening. At the church of the Messiah Christmas will be observed by a gathering of the children in the afternoon. Games will be furnished and refreshments provided, and in the evening an operetta will be given by the children, and pantomimes and tableaux will add much to the

antertainment. There will be festivals at Bethany chapel and the Baptist vertry Tuesday evening, and entertainment will be forded for the older people as well as for children.

DECEMBER 23 is the tenth anniversary of the DECEMBER 23 is the tenth anniversary of the crusside from which the Woman's Christian Temperance Union is the outgrowth. The various local unions throughout the country intend to celebrate by making Sunday a temperance day. This seeming impracticable in Montpeller, the two organizations here will commemorate this event by a sociable at the home of Mrs. D. L. Fuller on Saturday evening, December 22. There will be refreshments and a literary and musical programme, and all are invited to come and pass a pleasant evening.

A Young May's Comments with the various contraction of the contract of the contra

invited to come and pass a pleasant evening.

A YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN UNION was organized in the vestry of Trinity church last Sunday afternoon by twenty young men connected with the Baptist, Congregational and Methodist churches They will hold prayer-meetings each Sunday afternoon, and express an earnest purpose to labor for the cause of right. Mr. James P. Hayes was chosen president of the union. A secretary and treasurer were also elected and a committee appointed to secure rooms for holding the meetings. The next meeting will be held in the vestry of the Baptist church at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

afternoon.

EBENFEER GUNNISON, for the past forty-six years a resident of this place, died of pneumonia at his home on Loomis street on Friday last. Mr Gunnison was born in Goshen, N H., in the year 1800, and the days of his childhood and youth were pa-sed in that place. In 1820 he moved to East Montpelier, where he lived about a year, when he moved to Plainfield. There he married "Polly" Mellen, by whom he had eight children, five of whom were boys. Mrs. Gunnison died June 14, 1882, and of the children only three are known to survive their father. Mr. Gunnison has been quite feeble for a long time, but has been able to go about until Thursday of the week previous to his demise, when he was suddenly taken ill. From the following morning until the time of his death he remained unconscious, suffering severely most of the time. He was a firm believer in Spiritualism and refused all medical attendance. The funeral services were held at the ance. The funeral services were held at the house at two o'clock Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Paul of Morrisville, a medium, officiating.

Some weeks ago we made allusion to the need in which Montpelier stood of a good military band, and we are informed that on Saturday evening of that same week several of the members of the old band met together and organized a new band, with C. M. Cushman as leader. The organization is not the result of the efforts of any particular individual, but is formed by mutual agreement of a few who are willing to interest themselves in its success. willing to interest themselves in its success. Hence the band is an entirely independent one, and, in our judgment, stands a better chance of and, in our judgment, stands a better chance of success for that reason. Rehearsals are held weekly and the "boys" seem to be practicing a different class of music from that heretofore rendered by our local band. Much of the mo-notony of quicksteps and "trashy" music is relieved by first-class selections and overtures, which are at present the subject of diligent study. We believe it is the intention of the band to give ones-alregorate next, assets, as a second study. We believe it is the intention of the band to give open-air concerts next summer, in addition to the out-of-door work which eam-paign time will afford. The band now numbers about eighteen pieces, and it is exp that additions will soon be made to

SEVEN hundred lickets were sold by the children for the school entertainment on Friday. Miss Webster's room carried off the paim for the largest number sold, her pupils having disposed of one hundred and seventy-six. Elerton Washborn, one of Miss Webster's pupils, was the recipient of the school prize, having sold thirty-four. Another, Clara Adams, took the first of the school prizes with thirty-two. The other rooms, with the respective number of tickets sold by the pupils in each, the name of that pupil in each room who took the prize, of tickets sold by the pupils in each, the name of that pupil in each room who took the prize, and the number of tickets for which it was awarded, are as follows: Miss Alvord's, one hundred and fifty-two, Fred Whitcomb, twen-ty-eight; Miss Chamberlain's, one hundred and ty-eight; Mi-s Chamberlain's, one hundred and forty-four, Annie Phinney, seventeen; Miss Houghton's, eighty, Mary Poland and B-sele Farwell, eleven each; Miss Sweet's, fifty-seven, Mins Magoon, eleven; Miss Terrill's, fifty, Gerty Clark, eight; grammar -chool, twenty-one, Belle Mead, eight. The prizes offered were: school prize, a Waterbury watch, by W. W. Prescott. General prizes, a box of stationery, by Hiram Atkins; a history of the United States, by T. C. Phinney; a porte-monnaie, by H. E. Slayton; an ivory paper cutter, by G. W. Wilder; an ink well, by Hiram Carleton; a horn paper-cutter, by Dr. D. G. Kemp, and a vase by J. C. Emery. Three hundred tickets were taken at the door.

The ladies of Bethany society have worked

THE ladies of Bethany society have worked long and faithfully to prepare for their fair, which was held in the chapel last Thursday. Matrons and maidens have devoted time and energies to the cause, and their efforts to make the enterprise a success have been rewarded abundantly. The contributions of fancy and seful articles were numerous and many of them quite valuable. The fair opened Thursday afternoon, and continued through the remainder of the day and evening. Five booths were erected, each devoted to the sale of some was sold, was almost entirely stripped of its fity aprons, among other articles, ranging in price from fifty cents to three dollars. Only five or six remained mosold. The refreshment and flower stands were also liberally patronized. The former was, to the gentlemen pres-ent, the chief attraction, the principal induce-ment to them to vi-it other booths being the attractive faces of those in charge of them. More than two hundred people visited the fair, and the entire receipts were something over \$200. With this the ladies have been enabled to settle every debt upon their hands, including a balance of \$115 due on their new plane, and have something left in the treasury. They have earned some \$300 during the year, and retire from the duties of their position with highest honors.

THE fall term of the Union school closed last week with the usual examinations and an ex-hibition Friday afternoon, of which the follow ing is the programme:

ROOM 1-MIRS SWEET. ROOM 2-MISS HOUGHTON.

Song..." When the Day with Rosy Light,"..... School Plane solo... Tarantelle." Neille F. Hyde ROOM 3-MISS CHAMBERGAIN. -"The Little Busy Bee." School.

tion-" linger on the little." Rose Lucia.

tion-" Children's Hout." School.

tion-" Playev and Ponto." Herry Oviati.

tion-" Crocked Speciacies." Flora Scote.

Cond. Man. "School." School.

o sol. "Flower Song." Mary L. P. eemst on song." Roil Your H. nds." Miss Sweet's school..." The Old Black Cat," Boys of Nos. 3 and d BOOM 4-MISS WESSTER. Mary Wilson ecitation—" Rescued " ong—" It's a Way we Have." bed ston—" The Baby's Footprist." secitation—" The Rose and the Waif."

fecitation..." The Boss and Selection..." Avenue..."
"iano duet..." The Witch's Flight.".
"lano duet..." The Witch's Flight.".
"Clatter, Clatter, Patter, Patter.".
"Clatter, Clatter, Patter, Patter.".
M ss Houghton's school...
M ss Houghton's school...
"Avenue And Miss T ROOMS 5 AND 6-MISS ALVORD AND MISS TERRILL. Booms 5 and 6—Miss Alvond and Miss Territi.

Recitation—" The Chambered Nauthus," May Scoville,
Recitation—" Only a Box". Merion Carta.

Song—" Under the Apple Tree." Schools.
Recit thor—" Kate Sheller." Enta Casawaint.

Recitation—" Raveng of Rain-in-the-Face,"

Plano solo—" The Unique G lop," Emma Catter.

Song—" Upidee." Schools.

Rechation—" Husting Fegs." Julia Mead.

Song—" Summer Shower." Mrs. W. A. Briggs.

WASHINGTON COUSTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL-ME. BROWN AND MISS STURGES. AND Miss STURGES.

Song—"I'm a Shepherd of the Valley," School.

Recutation—"The Bell of At I." Charlotte Ropes.
Figure solo—"Slephonic Gyorte," Helen L. Burgee.

Re-ding—"Stabat Mater." Mary C. Graham.

Beckentation—"The Rum M. niac," I. W. Cate.

School.

.... All the echools. This programme, although containing forty-three parts, was all rendered in two hours. It is unnecessary to particularize by separate is unnecessary to particularize by separate comment on the excellence of each part. The verdict of the large andience present was, "well done," in every case. The programme was so varied that no one was wearied by the two hours' sitting. In response to an invitation, Mr. Wright said some appropriate words about the library, for the benefit of which the entertainment was cotten in and which will entertainment was gotten up, and which will thus gain seventy dollars' worth of new books. The committee and citizens are much pleased with the results of the first term under new principal, Mr. B. F. Brown, and feel t their children's interests are in good hands.

N. P. Brooks will soon return home from Amberst. The condition of his health is con-